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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HG/a  
PF  
1-1301

... In re patent application of: )  
Conor Mulrooney et al. )  
Serial No. (unknown) )  
Filed Herewith )  
AMPLIFICATION OF NUCLEIC ACIDS )  
US National Stage of PCT/GB99/00929 )  
International Filing Date March 24, 1999 )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified patent application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 3, 5 and 7-18 as follows: